

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINGST 03391 271436Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 CU-02 PM-04 NSC-05

SS-15 TRSE-00 AID-05 AF-10 /073 W

-----098614 271450Z /40

R 271300Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5989

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY NASSAU

AMEMBASSY PORT OF LQAIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 3391

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: PINT, JM

SUBJECT: REPORTED SHAKEUP IN PNP YOUTH ORGANIZATION

1. BEGIN GDS: ACCORDING TO A NEWS BROADCAST LAST EVENING (JUNE 23) ON THE PRIVATELY-OWNED RADIO STATION RJR, THERE HAS BEEN A CONSIDERABLE SHAKEUP IN THE PNP YOUTH ORGANIZATION, THE YOUTH FRONT OF THE RULING PEOPLES NATIONAL PARTY (PNP), THE NEWS ACCOUNT, WHICH HAS APPEARED IN NONE OF THE NEWS" PAPERS NOR ON THE RADIO AND TELEVISION NEWS BROADCASTS OF THE GOVERNMENT -OWNED JAMAICA BORADCASTING CORPORATION, STATES THAT THE YOUTH ORGANIZATION'S CHAIRMAN, SENATOR SEFTON JOHN-SON, WHO IS ALSO PARLIMENTARY SECRETARY IN HUGH SMALL'S MINISTRY OF YOUTH, SPORTS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, WAS DIS-MISSED ON A VOTE OF NO-CONFIDENCE. THE TREASURER WAS ALSO REPORTEDLY REMOGED, AS WERE TWO PARISH CHAIRMAN. A RE-ORGANIZATION IS TO TAKE PLACE UNDER THE AEGIS OF PAUL BURKE, WHO WILL SERVE AS "ACTING CHAIRMAN" OF THE YOUTH ORGANIZATION UNTIL THE PNP YOUTH FRONT HOLDS ITS ANNUAL MEETING AUGUST WHEN HE IS EXPECTED TO BE CONFIRMED IN THE CHAIRMANSHIP. A NEW CONSITTU-
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PAGE 02 KINGST 03391 271436Z

TION IS BEING WRITTEN FOR THE YOUTH ORGANIZATION; UNDER ITS TERMS, THE POST OF SECRETARY GENERAL WEILL BE ESTABLISHED AND SHELDON MCDONALD, PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO MOBILIZATION MINISTER (AND PNP GENERAL SECRETARY) D.K. DUNCAN, WILL BE APPOINTED TO NEW POSITION. THE RJR NEWS ACCOUNT CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT THE FUTURE OF THE YOUTH ORGANIZATION WILL BE

DISCUSSED BY THE PNP'S NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
WHICH MEETS THIS WEEKEND IN OCHO RIOS (SEE KINGSTON
3385.)

2. COMMENT: THERE HAS BEEN NO CONFIRMATION OF THE
RJR REPORT FROM ANY SOURCE SO FAR. THAT A SHAKEUP
MIGHT OCCUR IS UNSURPRISING. THE YOUTH ORGANIZATION
HAS BEEN UNUSUALLY STORMY IN THE PAST, AND LAST
YEAR THE-THEN CHAIRMAN, LUIS CASTRIOTA, WAS DISMISSED
FOR A SERIOUS BREACH OF PARTY DISCIPLINE (SEE
76 KINGSTON 3666). THAT SEFTON JOHNSON MIGHT BE
OUSTED IS HARD TO ACCEPT, GIVEN HIS GOVERNMENTAL
ASSIGNMENT AND, WE WOULD ASSUME, BACKING BY HUGH
SMALL. THAT A PROTEGE OF DUNCAN MIGZPT TAKE A LEADING
ROLE IS, HOWEVER, THOROUGHLY UNSURPRISING, END GDS.

3. BEGIN XGDS-2: WE KNOW NOTHING ABOUT PAUL BURKE.
HOWEVER, MCDONAL IS WELL-KNOWN. HE HAS BEEN IN
CLOSE CONTACT WITH THE CUBANS, HAS VISITED CUBA--
STAYED FOR A YEAR
IN 1975/76-- AND IN 1976 VISITED
ANGOLA UNDER CUBAN AUSPICES. END XGDS-2.
DORRANCE

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 27-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
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